

• Abroad •

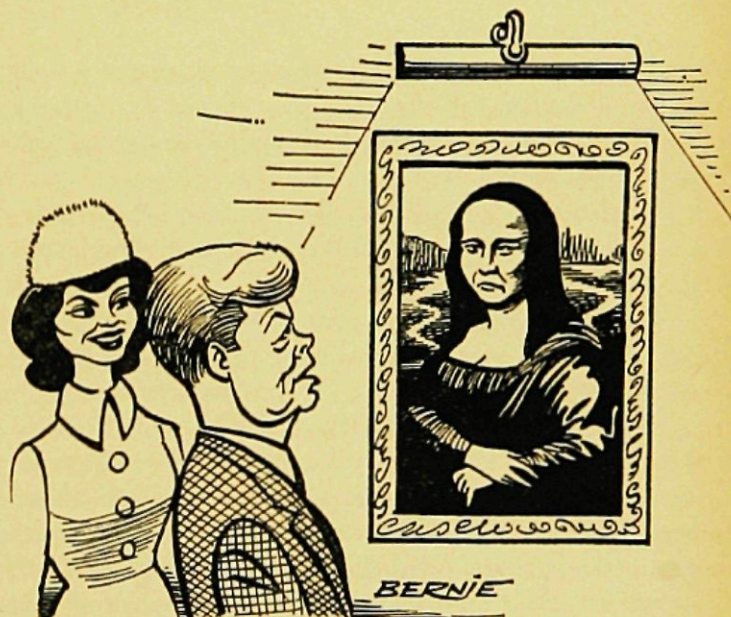
Najran, Yemen. Although Washington, following its fixed rule, has recognized the left-wing revolutionary republic, the civil war is by no means over. The leftists—or rather, the Egyptians—hold the towns, but the tribes of the countryside and mountains have rallied to the young Princes, who have shown ability as well as courage. The Egyptian force is said to number 13,000 equipped with Russian armored vehicles and heavy arms, and an air force made up of Russian jets (Badgers), converted Ilyushins and Russian helicopters. A large Soviet group functions with the Egyptians. The bombing of the villages has been ruthless and indiscriminate, but has rallied normally feuding tribes against the republic. Though having only rifles and daggers, the tribesmen are said to have killed more than a thousand Egyptians and to have destroyed or captured large quantities of equipment. Prince Abdullah bin Hassan defeated a large Egyptian force in mid-December, and has maneuvered within 25 miles of Sana'a, the capital. Lacking heavy weapons or a tradition of coordinated strategy, the conquest of the towns is an imposing task for the tribes; but for the Egyptians the war is proving deadly and expensive, and has already brought bitter criticism at home. If it had not been for Washington's recognition, the outlook for the republic would be far from bright.

London. At Question Time, in the House of Lords, one recent winter's day: "LORD CONESFORD asked the Government whether UNESCO had recently published a booklet called *Equality of Rights between Races and Nationalities in the U.S.S.R.* and whether the authors *inter alia* thus describe the annexation of the Baltic States: 'In 1940 the Soviet regime was restored in the Baltic republics which voluntarily joined the Union.' . . . The EARL of DUNDEE—The booklet referred to was published by UNESCO earlier this year and it contains the reference to the Baltic States as quoted. Responsibility for publication lies with UNESCO. . . . LORD CONESFORD—Are not the statements in this book the direct opposite of the truth? Is it not outrageous that the funds of UNESCO, to which we contribute, should be devoted to the dissemination of falsehoods? The EARL of DUNDEE—I sympathize with those feelings."

Moscow. As a result of a study by a committee of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, construction of dirigibles will probably be resumed, after a lapse of 25 years. The Soviet chemical industry can now supply sufficient helium, lacking in 1938. With the danger of hydrogen eliminated, dirigibles are an admirably suited vehicle for many Soviet purposes. Even 30 years ago they could carry loads of 60 tons; today they could be used to transport heavy turbines, big machines or complete cement kilns to remote Siberian areas difficult of access by other means. Dirigibles can have extremely long range, vary speed from zero up to more than 100 mph, and take off vertically with mini-

mum ground installation. Since engines are needed only for propulsion, not for lift, the operating cost per ton mile is low—about 6% of the helicopter cost.

Milan. The right-wing weekly, *Il Borghese*, declares that the first session of the Vatican Council represents a victory for Polish Cardinal Wysinski, Cardinal Montini of Milan and the young Monsignor Loris Capovilla, private secretary to Pope John. *Il Borghese* believes this to mean a triumph of the tendency within the Church that supports the "opening to the Left" within Italy and leans toward "a concordat with the governments of the Communist countries." Cardinal Montini, long known as leftward inclined, was singled out for such special attention that rumor makes him Pope John's nominee as successor. He was assigned an apartment in the Vatican, recently done over for the Pope's personal use, and conducted his diplomatic operations from that base. Reacting against the prevailing atmosphere of the Council, Father Chianella, a Jesuit, arranged an exhibit of "the Church of Silence"—that is, the persecuted Church within the Communist empire—and 15 Ukrainian bishops in exile published a declaration calling for the liberation of priests behind the Iron Curtain. Both of these manifestations were virtually ignored by the Catholic press in Rome.



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"She looks like De Gaulle to me!"

Katmandu. The Nepalese government has issued a semi-official warning that Nepalese-American relations will soon be in bad shape unless Washington withdraws an outrageous request that affronts Nepalese sovereignty—threatening Nepal, according to the local press, with "financial subjugation." What the Americans have done is to ask the government for some sort of rough accounting of what American aid money has been spent for.

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